

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

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COUNTRY Austria/USSR

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SUBJECT Miscellaneous Information on the
Werkschutz Organization

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(LISTED BELOW)

50X1-HUM

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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Werkschutz and SMV Fire Brigade - Miscellaneous

1. The Werkschutz is a name given to those uniformed guards employed by USIA and the SMV. The Werkschutz is broken down into numerous guard squads, each squad being under the command of a Gruppenfuehrer or Zugfuehrer (company commander). Each of these guard squads is made up of from 12 to 40 men, the size of the squad depending upon the size of the installation being guarded.
2. The squads in turn are commanded by Stabsfuehrer (staff leaders) who are responsible for entire industrial complexes, usually including several factories. In the oil fields the Stabsfuehrer is responsible for the guard details in all the oil fields. Another Stabsfuehrer is responsible for the guard details at the oil refineries. These Stabsfuehrer are under the command of a Soviet officer who apparently has his offices in the Kantgasse. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
[redacted] the Werkschutz is armed with German carbines, model 98, a limited number of Soviet carbines, machine pistols and automatic pistols. Although 50X1-HUM the Werkschutz is, of course, trained in the use of their personal weapons, source states that there is no evidence that the Werkschutz has ever been given intensive military training or instruction in strike-breaking or riot control. [redacted] the number of Werkschutz men on duty in the SMV oil fields 50X1-HUM is about 220.
3. The SMV Fire Brigade is a separate organization, with its headquarters at Heusiedl. The Fire Brigade wears a uniform different from that of the Werkschutz and is not armed. The Werkschutz, as well as the Fire Brigade, is made up of reliable Communists.

Uniforms of the SMV, the Werkschutz and Fire Brigade

4. The Werkschutz man wears a dirty gray uniform cut on military lines. His overcoat of normal length is buttoned to the throat; the overcoat belt is of gray linen with a dull metal buckle. His tunic and trousers are also dirty gray, cut on military lines. The tunic is jacket length and also belted; the collar is open with small lapels. The Werkschutz man does not wear gaiters and his trousers are not tucked into his high shoes. The Werkschutz man's cap is of the same color gray and closely resembles the gray flat-topped cap of the Austrian customs official; the peak is of a gray plastic material. No badges of rank or insignia are visible.

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5. The uniform of the SMV Fire Brigade is similar in cut and color to that of the Werkschutz man except that the cloth is of better quality. The Fireman wears red tabs on his lapels and his rank is indicated by silver rosettes. This uniform closely resembles that of the Austrian uniformed fire brigade.

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